

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1220 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5607
(916) 445-0444

A.G. KAWAMURA, Secretary



August 24, 2007

Notice to Commercial Feed Industry**Commercial Feed License Requirements**

This notice is to remind everyone of the current California Commercial Feed Licensing requirement. Licensing of all manufacturing and distribution locations plays an important role in ensuring food and feed safety by enabling the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Feed Inspection Program to effectively respond to feed safety emergencies.

Section 15051(a) of the California Food and Agricultural Code requires that each person shall obtain a license from the secretary for each location where commercial feed is manufactured, distributed, sold, or stored for later sale.

Section 15051(b) states that this section shall also apply to a person whenever the person's name and address appears on the label of commercial feed as the guarantor.

Section 15051(c) exempts persons making retails sales of commercial feed which bear the tag or other approved indication that the commercial feed is from a licensed manufacturer or guarantor who has assumed the full tax responsibility for the tonnage tax due under this chapter. Also exempt is a person who manufactures commercial feed exclusively for feeding his or her own animals.

It is important that all manufacturers and distributors, foreign or domestic, are licensed not only to be in compliance with Section 15051 of the Food and Agricultural Code, but also to provide critical information that would be useful in responding to incidents of feed or food contamination. Imported feed and feed ingredients have proven to be the most challenging when addressing feed and food safety. Without knowledge of their origin, conducting trace backs becomes difficult. In emergency responses, proper identification through licensing would play a key role in notifying affected firms of possible recall or other enforcement actions.

Commercial Feed Licensing is for one year, beginning July 1st and expiring June 30th of the following year. The current annual licensing fee is \$100 per location. Applications are available at the CDFA website: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/apply_register.html

Your cooperation and efforts to comply with the laws and regulations is greatly appreciated. Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to Kent Kitade, Program Supervisor, at 916-445-2140.